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February 24, 2003

Date

Tami M. Procopio
Tami M. Procopio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Daniel E. AFAR, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/323,597

Filing Date: 1 June 1999

For: NOVEL TUMOR ANTIGEN USEFUL
IN DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY OF
PROSTATE AND COLON CANCER

Examiner: Gary B. Nickol, Ph.D.

Group Art Unit: 1642

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein mailed 23 August 2002, time for response to which was set to expire 23 November 2002. A petition for an extension of time of three (3) months until 23 February 2003 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. The pending claims, claims 72-84 were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Applicants appreciate that there is no rejection over the art. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is the following Exhibit A: Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.